

Response by the Applicant

The applicant requests that the Response filed on 10 January 2007 be replaced by the present Response.

Claims Rejections – 35 USC § 112

The indefinite nature of claims has now been corrected. As a result of this, the following action has been taken.

Claims 1 to 13, originally submitted, are now Canceled. Claims 14 to 28 are New.

Claims Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims Rejections – 35 USC § 103

1. The present invention relates to divalent metal cation and zeolite anion ion-pair agents or compositions, for example zinc zeolite, that treat diaper rash (diaper dermatitis).

In order to make this point clear, Claims 1 to 13, originally submitted, have now been canceled.

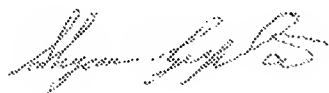
To specifically focus on the main invention, which is divalent metal cation and zeolite anion ion-pair for diaper rash treatment, the reference to quaternary ammonium cation – zeolite anion ion-pair has been deleted, as further reflected in claims 14 (new) to 27 (new).

Additionally, the term ***“for the treatment of diaper dermatitis”*** is included to make the above distinction

further clear, for example, Claim 14 (New), which is reflective of this action.

2. All prior art examples cited by the Examiner are in the area of oral or dental care. The Examiner has not cited any treatments for diaper rash by a divalent metal cation and a zeolite anion ion-pair composition.
3. The Applicant has made it amply clear in the Description part of this invention that the present invention does not relate to oral or dental care applications.
4. All prior art examples cited by the Examiner, which include JP 06065036A (Mori et al.), U.S. Patent 4,525,343 (Raaf), U.S. Patent 6,638,521 (Dobrozsi), and U.S. Patent 4,826,676 (Gioffre et al.), do not relate to the present invention in any manner, as above citations do not provide any treatments for diaper rash by a divalent metal cation and a zeolite anion ion-pair composition.

I hope the Examiner finds the above response satisfactory.



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Applicant

29 January 2007